

Riffles and Eddies

Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center
Volume XXXIII

603 N. APPLETON RD.

BELVIDERE, IL 61008 (815) 547- 7935
Spring 2009

Icy Beauty



Picture taken by Josh Sage, BCCD Restoration Projects Manager at the Piscasaw Fen Conservation Area in Capron, IL.

Camp Registration Begins Wed., April 1st!

Camp Redwing is open to children 6 - 11 . It will run from June 22 - August 7, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Each week of camp is \$100 for county residents and \$110 for non-residents. Activities each week include a field trip, swimming, fishing, arts and crafts. Extended care may be available for an additional fee. Ask about our family discount.



Camp Ducktails is for preschool children ages 4 and 5. It will run from June 22- August 7, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Campers will learn songs, go on nature hikes, and have story, craft, and snack times. The cost will be \$50 per week for county residents and \$60 per week for non-residents.

Camp Redtail is open to youth 12 - 15 . There will be two 4-day camping trips. The first trip will be July 7 - 10 to Turkey Run State Park in Indiana and is for beginners, no experience necessary. The second trip is July 28 - 31 to the Sylvania Wilderness Area in the UP. Prior canoe experience is recommended for this trip as we will be canoeing

to our campsites. Camping will be primitive and minimum impact. The cost for each trip is \$200 for county residents and \$220 for non-residents. The cost of this camp includes a Camp Redtail t-shirt, food, tents, equipment, and user fees. Campers will be responsible for sleeping bags, personal gear, and spending money. There will be a pre-trip parent orientation meeting on June 24 to answer any questions. Space is limited!

Limited scholarships are available to qualifying families.

Help Fund Summer Camp Scholarships

Last year we had more requests for financial assistance than we had funds available. Please help us to raise more money this year by donating scholarships, purchasing vintage camp shirts for \$5 or by visiting www.stuckonyou.biz to buy cool labels for school, camp or whatever. Donations can be mailed to 603 N. Appleton Rd., Belvidere, IL 61008. Please mark the donation "summer camp".

Drink Pouch Brigade

We have joined forces with Terracycle, a company that creates products from recycled materials, and are collecting used drink pouches from the school children that visit us.

These used drink pouches are then sent to Terracycle where they are recycled into bags, backpacks, and other items. Not only are we diverting waste from the landfill, but 2 cents for each pouch collected is donated to a nonprofit organization, like us, the BCCD. If you have drink pouches (NO juice boxes) and wish to donate them , bring them to the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center, Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

New Residents at the Nature Center

Collin and Erin McKinney donated 3 geckos to the nature center. Pepsi, Sprite and Squirt would love it if you stopped by to visit them and brought them some crickets as a yummy treat.





The Mission of the Boone County Conservation District is to preserve and manage natural areas and open spaces for ecological, educational, and recreational benefits of present and future generations.

BCCD Board of Trustees

Brad Peters, President
Barb Wych, Secretary
Karl Winkler, Treasurer
John Todt, Trustee
George Thomas, Trustee

BCCD Staff

Dan Kane-
Executive Director
Mick Johnston-
Director of Operations
Cathie Johnson-
Office Manager
Tim Craig-
Education Director
Tina Dawson-
Environmental Educator
Valerie Coduto-
Environmental Educator
Bev Kalas-
Volunteer/Events Coordinator
Joshua Sage-
Restoration Projects Manager
Aaron Minson
Restoration Technician
Mike Quigley-
Crew Leader
Pat Lupont-
Field Technician
Tom Berard-
Field Technician

Riffles & Eddies is a free newsletter published quarterly. If you know someone who would like to receive this publication, or has an address correction, please call our office - (815) 547-7935

The Boone County Conservation District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age or handicap in admission or treatment, or employment in programs or activities. In compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the U.S. Constitution. The Equal Employment Opportunity Officer is responsible for compliance and may be reached at (217)423-7708.

Celebrate Earth!

April 1st - May 10th



In an effort to reach a larger audience and raise awareness about Earth Day, the Four Rivers Environmental Coalition has partnered with local organizations to promote events in April and May that are earth themed in nature. Check out the spring 4 Rivers brochure for event details. Brochures available at the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center, 603 N. Appleton Rd., Belvidere, IL.

April 12th - 18th

National Environmental Education Week

"Be Water Wise!"

A hot water faucet that leaks one drop per second can add up to 165 gallons a month. That's more than one person uses in two weeks.

Salamander Search

Fri., April 3rd

5:30 p.m.



Join BCCD staff in searching for salamanders!! We will guide you into the wilderness to look for breeding salamanders and whatever else we may encounter on the way. Meet at the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center. This program is open to all ages, but you need to call (815) 547-7935 and let us know you will be joining us. Don't miss this opportunity to uncover some of nature's rarely seen treasures.

Meet Me In The Gardens

June 13	6:00 p.m.	History Theatre In the Gardens
July 26	5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Garden Walk
August 8	6:30 p.m.	Progressive Heritage Garden Dinner
August 29	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Cooking with Heirlooms
September 9	6:00 p.m.	Heirloom Tomato Tasting
September 26-27		Autumn Pioneer Festival

Look in upcoming Riffles and Eddies for more information concerning the programs taking place in our Heritage Gardens.

Thank You



A big thanks goes out to all the people who donated peanuts and corn for the squirrels. Our chubby little friends were very appreciative. Also thank you to the gentleman who donated the ice auger.

District Wish List

We need **clear** plastic 35 mm film canisters. If you have any, they may be dropped off at the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center, 603 N. Appleton Road., Belvidere, IL Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. We are also looking for donations to cover the cost (\$6,000) of a new Western Tornado Spreader to help with our winter snow removal. If you wish to donate, please mail your check to BCCD, 603 N. Appleton Rd., Belvidere, IL Please mark it as a spreader donation. For more information contact Mick Johnston at (815) 547-7935. Thank you.



**Boone County Conservation
District**

Phone 815 - 547-7935

Fax 815 - 547-7939

www.BooneCountyConservationDistrict.org

Up Coming Events

Monthly Meetings

(Held at the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center and open to the public)

BCCD Board - 5:00 p.m.

Wed., - Mar. 18th, Apr. 15th, May 20th

Garden Club - 7:00 p.m.

Tues., - Mar. 24th

No meeting at the BCCD in April and May

School Program Registration

Registration for the 2nd and 3rd grade spring programs will begin on March 4th. The programs will run from April - May.

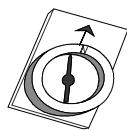
Learning Outdoor Skills

The BCCD will be offering a series of classes for novices and families to learn basic outdoor skills. All classes are family friendly. The first is the Map and Compass class listed below. Upcoming classes will include basic dutch oven cooking, fire building, choosing and using the right equipment, etc. Watch for more information concerning these classes.

Map and Compass

Sat., April 4th

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon



First class in our Learning Outdoor Skills Series. Learn how to read a map and compass, as well as the lay of the land. After learning the basics, participants will trek out into the forest to use their skills to find markers deep in the conservation area. The program starts at 9:00 a.m. at Parkview North shelter at Kinnikinnick Creek Conservation Area. Wear clothing that can get dirty, bring a snack or lunch and a compass if you have one. Pre-registration is required so call (815) 547-7935 to register. Cost is \$3/person or \$9/family.

Flora Prairie Clean Up

Tues., March 17th

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Join us for the annual clean up at Flora Prairie. We begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 12:00 noon. Volunteers will help clear brush and unsightly trash from the prairie. Wear comfortable clothing and bring work gloves. Call 815-547-7935 with questions or if the weather looks questionable.

Bird Hike

Tues., May 14th - 4:00 p.m.

Sat., May 16th - 6:30 a.m.

Join BCCD Volunteer John Todt for a walk to view the birds. This is the time when a lot of species of birds might be migrating through the area. Meet at the Lions shelter in Spencer Conservation Area. For all of you "early birds" on May 16th, there will be juice and donuts served.



Woodland Wildflower Walk

Wed., April 29th

6:00 p.m.

Join volunteer Brian Hale in a hunt for early spring wildflowers in the hardwood forest at Kinnikinnick Creek Conservation Area. Most of the hike will take place in the 102 acre Illinois Nature Preserve that is located within the park.



Long Prairie Trail Clean Up

Sat., Apr. 18th 8:30 a.m.

Join our "Friends of the Long Prairie Trail" group at the LPT parking lot in Poplar Grove for juice and donuts before tackling the trail clean up. **Bring work gloves if you have them.** If you have any questions, please call 815-547-7935.

Green Spring Cleaning Party

Sat., May 2nd

9:00 - 11:00 a.m.



A green cleaning party is a fun event where you and your friends learn how to make non-toxic cleaners from common ingredients like vinegar, baking soda and essential oils. There is no cost, but bring clean spray bottles and jars so you can take home your concoctions and start green cleaning. This program will be held at the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center. You must call (815) 547-7935 to register by April 24th.

Tan Your Hide

Sat., March 7th, 14th and

Sun., March 15th

9:00 a.m.

Interested in learning how to tan a hide the way the Native Americans and early settlers did? This 3 day workshop will teach you how to do just that. Cost of the workshop is \$25 per person. Space is very limited. Pre-registration and pre-payment is required. Registration will begin on February 17th at 7:00 a.m. Call the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center at (815) 547-7935 to reserve your spot.

Dutch Oven Desserts

Wed., May 6th

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Meet at the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center and learn how to cook delicious desserts in a Dutch oven over an open fire. Cost of the class is \$6 per person. Pre-registration and pre-payment is required. Call (815) 547-7935 to make your reservation.



Now accepting applications for summer camp positions.

Riffles & Eddies



603 Appleton Road, Belvidere, IL 61008

Non-profit
Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No.31
Belvidere, IL

Attention Bow Hunters

Qualifying for the BCCD
archery hunt will be held on



Saturday, May 16th
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Tuesday, May 19th
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 21st -
8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Please note new qualifying site

Kishwaukee Bend Conservation Area
9416 US Rt. 20
Garden Prairie, IL

For information, call
(815) 547-7935 or visit our website
www.BooneCountyConservationDistrict.org

Nature Bee Quiz

Question 1 - In addition to their lungs,
frogs also breathe through their _____

- A. Skin
- B. Feet
- C. Tongue
- D. Eyes

Question 2 - What is North America's
fastest bird?

- A. Bald Eagle
- B. Sharp-shinned hawk
- C. Peregrine falcon
- D. Great-horn owl



Quiz Answers
Question 1 - A
Question 2 - C